

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12

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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, ID

SUBJECT: RENEGOTIATION OF INDONESIA'S GATT SCHEDULE

REF: (A) GENEVA 5724, (B) GENEVA 8241, (C) GENEVA 8566

1. U.S. DEL MAY SUPPORT EXTENSION OF INDONESIAN WAIVER AT
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NOVEMBER 21 GATT COUNCIL MEETING EITHER ON BASIS OF

CURRENT WAIVER LANGUAGE OR ALONG LINES OF 1956 BRAZILIAN WAIVER.

2. OUR ANALYSIS OF INDONESIAN TARIFF SITUATION AND U.S. TRADE OBJECTIVES VIS-A-VIS INDONESIA IS STILL UNDERWAY, AND WE DO NOT WISH TO TAKE ANY DEFINITIVE ACTION AT THIS TIME ON CHOICE OF FORUM FOR NEGOTIATIONS. OUR TENTATIVE THINKING, HOWEVER, IS THAT, INsofar AS POSSIBLE ARTICLE XXVIII NEGOTIATIONS SEPARATE FROM MTN MAY BE TO OUR ADVANTAGE IN SECURING MEANINGFUL BINDINGS FROM INDONESIA, ESPECIALLY IF INDONESIANS THEMSELVES STRONGLY FAVOR ARTICLE XXVIII APPROACH.

3. WE NOTE FROM REFTEL A THAT ONLY JAPAN WAS OPPOSED TO ARTICLE XXV WAIVER ON GROUNDS IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS PRECEDENT. IN OUR VIEW INDONESIAN CASE IS NEARLY UNIQUE.

VERY FEW COUNTRIES, IF ANY, WILL EVER BE IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF SHIFTING FROM LEAGUE OF NATIONS PRE-WAR TARIFF CLASSIFICATION TO BTN WITHOUT ADEQUATE STATISTICAL INFORMATION TO ESTABLISH A CONCORDANCE NECESSARY TO PRESERVE BINDINGS.

4. FOR GENEVA: WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CHECKING WITH LINDEN OF GATT SECRETARIAT TO CONFIRM THAT DC AND SECRETARIAT CONSENSUS IS STILL IN FAVOR OF WAIVER AND NEGOTIATIONS AS PROPOSED REFTEL A. WHAT IS CURRENT JAPANESE VIEW?

5. FOR JAKARTA: PLEASE CONFIRM WHETHER INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES STILL FAVOR SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS, (AS PER REFTEL A) AND IF SO, WHEN AND WHERE.

6. INQUIRIES REQUESTED IN PARAS. 4 AND 5 SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN SUCH A WAY AS NOT TO FORCLOSE SUPPORT FOR MELDING INDONESIAN NEGOTIATIONS INTO MTN IN CASE WE DECIDE THAT COURSE IS PREFERABLE. KISSINGER

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